

20th October 2023

Dear Parents/Guardians

I am writing at the end of the first half term of the academic year and it has been a busy and successful period. Last night saw Year 9 parents' evening take place in person once again and I would like to thank parents/guardians of Year 9 students for attending and Mr Joseph, Head of Year 9, for organising the evening. This week we also had our third Trust-wide VLT maths challenge which saw Year 6 and Year 7 students from all schools in our Trust competing at Ruislip High School. I would like to thank Mr Ladhani, Director of Maths, for organising the event and, whilst competing is always more important than winning, congratulate our team who came second overall.

Performance data

Yesterday the government published performance data for the summer exams (click [here](#)) which makes public the excellent outcomes students attained in the summer. I am delighted that the school's Progress 8 score of 0.51 shows that students made progress well above the national average, with Ruislip High School students, on average, making over half a grade more progress than students from similar starting points nationally. As was the case last academic year, there is no progress data for post-16 outcomes because the cohort received teacher-assessed grades in 2021; however, the attainment data for Year 13 last year is available on our website (click [here](#)) and shows the excellent achievements of our students.

Behaviour at social time

As parents and guardians are aware, we have high expectations of our students at all times. Unfortunately, we have a minority of students whose behaviour at social times has not been to the high expectations of our school community and we want to ensure that this is dealt with in a swift and manageable way, to allow the vast majority of students who do behave appropriately to enjoy their social time.

After half term, should students behave inappropriately during social time, particularly where students display challenging behaviour and/or do not follow the instructions of staff, the student will be taken to Back on Track for the remainder of the day. A detention will also be set for that day and parents will be notified via ClassCharts.

This will be for a trial period and I will update parents and guardians next half term. I am confident that this approach will ensure that Ruislip High School remains a great and safe place for all of our students and allows staff to focus on our core business of teaching and learning.

Safeguarding

With the half-term break approaching, I would like to remind everyone of the importance of staying safe in the local community. We have had reports of unsafe behaviour in local parks and concerns of the behaviour of older youths in the Ruislip community. I would urge parents/guardians to follow [this](#) link to find information from the Metropolitan Police about staying safe and street crime, which includes guidance for you to discuss with your child.

Prospective parents

I have had the pleasure over the past two weeks of meeting prospective parents as they have been toured around the school building by our Year 9 ambassadors. As I wrote after our open evening in September, our students are our greatest asset and it has been a delight to hear them speak about their school experience. The prospective parents have been impressed with students' attitudes to learning and the purposeful atmosphere of the school.

Speech and Language

The Speech and Language Therapy team at Central and North West London NHS Foundation Trust have asked me to share details of workshops they are running in November for families to access for free. Please click [here](#) for the full details.

Finally, I would like to share below the key dates for next half term. I wish all members of our community a restful half-term break, and look forward to welcoming students back on Monday 30th October 2023.

Yours sincerely



Gareth Davies
Headteacher

Key dates for next half term

Monday 30th October 2023: Half term begins
Tuesday 31st October and Wednesday 1st November 2023: Year 8 African drumming workshop
Thursday 2nd November 2023: Year 7 tutor evening - 4:30pm - 7pm
Friday 3rd November 2023: Year 13 British Library trip
Friday 3rd November 2023: Basketball trip - 5:30pm - 11pm
Tuesday 7th November 2023: Year 11 history trip
Wednesday 8th November 2023: Year 10 BIMA digital day
Wednesday 8th November 2023: Whole year group photographs (NB: date changed)
Thursday 9th November 2023: Year 11 history trip
Thursday 9th November 2023: Ruislip High School's Presentation Evening
Friday 10th November 2023: Year 12 & 13 Spanish theatre trip - 5:30pm - 11pm
Monday 13th November 2023 - Friday 17th November 2023: Anti-Bullying week
Wednesday 15th November 2023: Sixth form open evening - 4:30pm-7pm
Thursday 16th November 2023: Year 11 & 12 University of Cambridge trip
Tuesday 21st November 2023: Year 7 reading trip - 1pm - 2pm
Wednesday 22nd November 2023: Year 12 & 13 theatre trip - 5:30pm - 10:15pm
Thursday 23rd November & Friday 24th November 2023: INSET days

Monday 27th November 2023: Year 10 Jack Petchey workshop
Thursday 30th November 2023: Year 13 parents' evening - 4:30pm - 7pm
Monday 4th December - Wednesday 13th December 2023: Year 11 PPEs
Monday 11th December - Friday 15th December 2023: Thank you week
Tuesday 12th December 2023: KS5 media trip
Thursday 14th December - Friday 15th December 2023: Year 13 art PPE
Tuesday 19th December 2023: Sixth form community Christmas event - 4:30pm - 7pm
Wednesday 20th December 2023: Christmas concert - 5pm - 6pm
Thursday 21st December 2023: All students will be dismissed at 12:00pm